

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PIERCE

DAWN MARIE KORTER, as an individual,  
and as Personal Representative for the ESTATE  
OF SAID JOQUIN; and DEATURA  
EVERLYN-JEAN JOQUIN;

**Plaintiffs,**

V.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD, a political subdivision of the State of Washington, and d/b/a Lakewood Police Department, MICHAEL WILEY, an individual; and MICHAEL ZARO, an individual,

#### Defendants.

No. 21-2-06510-6

**PLAINTIFFS' FIRST AMENDED  
COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES UNDER  
WASHINGTON LAW AND 42 U.S.C. §  
1983**

## JURY TRIAL

COME NOW the above-named Plaintiffs, by and through their attorneys of record John. R. Connelly, Jr., Meaghan M. Driscoll and Samuel J. Daheim, and Connelly Law Offices, PLLC, and by way of claim allege upon personal knowledge as to themselves and their own actions, and upon information and belief upon all other matters, as follows:

## I. PARTIES

1. Defendant CITY OF LAKEWOOD is a political subdivision of the State of Washington. Among other things, the City of Lakewood provides law enforcement services

1 through its police department, the Lakewood Police Department (“LPD”). LPD’s mission is  
2 supposed to include creating a safe and secure environment in which to live and work,  
3 enforcing the law in a fair and impartial manner in accordance with applicable police  
4 standards and practices, and safeguarding its citizens’ Constitutional rights. In 2017, the  
5 Lakewood Police Department (LPD) and a number of its officers, including Defendant Wiley,  
6 and Defendant Lakewood Police Chief Michael Zaro were found by a jury to have wrongfully  
7 killed a young, unarmed black man and, in so doing, to have committed numerous civil rights  
8 violations. The outcome of that case included an award of punitive damages, intended to  
9 punish the egregious constitutional violations committed by Lakewood Police Officers,  
10 including Defendant Wiley, and Defendant Lakewood Police Chief Michael Zaro, and to  
11 deter future similar conduct. Since 2017, however, Plaintiffs are informed and believe and  
12 therefore allege that the City of Lakewood did nothing to retrain or monitor the officers  
13 involved in the improper deadly shooting and have done nothing to improve their police  
14 services or train personnel in the proper use of deadly force. To Plaintiffs’ knowledge, and  
15 discovery has now confirmed, LPD has done nothing to further ensure that further use of  
16 deadly force did not reoccur. Predictably, and very foreseeably, the lack of proper training of  
17 an officer who had already been determined to be overly aggressive and lacking basic  
18 understanding of police standards involving the use of deadly force, and who had previously  
19 had punitive damages assessed against him, lead to another unnecessary killing. In what  
20 should have been a routine traffic stop on May 1, 2020, Defendant Wiley, while acting in his  
21 official capacity as an LPD Officer, unnecessarily shot and killed another young black man  
22 who posed no threat of imminent physical harm. The civil rights violations set forth herein  
23 and to be proved at trial occurred as a direct and proximate result of Defendant City of

1 Lakewood's customs, policies, practices, ratification of misconduct, usages, failure to train,  
2 failure to monitor, failure to supervise, failure to address Wiley's mental problems, failure to  
3 curb his overly aggressive tendencies, and failure to take any action when Defendant Wiley  
4 had previously wrongfully shot and killed an unarmed black man. Defendant City Lakewood  
5 through its police department and officials had a deliberate indifference to hiring, training,  
6 supervision, and/or discipline, which caused the deprivations of Plaintiffs' constitutional  
7 rights. The decisions of Lakewood and its Police chief Michael Zaro were deliberately  
8 indifferent and caused the deprivation of constitutional rights.

9       2.      Defendant MICHAEL WILEY ("Officer Wiley") is a City of Lakewood police  
10 officer who, at all times relevant hereto, was acting within the scope of his employment and  
11 under color of state law. Defendant Wiley has previously been determined to have engaged in  
12 unnecessary violent and aggressive behavior, and has employed excessive force and been  
13 involved in the improper use of excessive force tactics, including the 2015 killing of Leonard  
14 Thomas. Despite having been determined to have wrongfully killed an unarmed man, Defendant  
15 Wiley was left on the LPD police force and was never disciplined, re-trained, or given additional  
16 supervision to ensure that a similar incident didn't happen again. On May 1, 2020, Wiley pulled  
17 over Said Joquin on Steilacoom Blvd. in Lakewood, WA for allegedly running a stop sign,  
18 which should have been a routine traffic stop. Defendant Wiley unnecessarily and unreasonably  
19 escalated the circumstances of the stop from the moment he stepped out of his police cruiser,  
20 failed to properly control the situation, drew his gun, held Said at gunpoint for a prolonged  
21 period, and ultimately, unreasonably and unnecessarily shot and killed Said Joquin as he sat in  
22 the driver's seat. Discovery has shown that Defendant Wiley failed to properly follow  
23 appropriate police procedures in his handling of the scene, improperly ordered Said Joquin to put

1 his hands on his head, told Said Joquin he was going to shoot him, and unreasonably and then  
2 unnecessarily shot Said Joquin for taking his hands off his head. Defendant Wiley's actions  
3 were unreasonable and done with deliberate indifference with a callous disregard for human life.

4       3.      Defendant MICHAEL ZARO was the Chief of the Lakewood Police  
5 Department who, at all times relevant hereto, was acting under color of law and within the  
6 course and scope of his employment. In his role as Chief, Defendant Zaro is responsible for  
7 formulating and implementing LPD's policies and procedures and ensuring and ascertaining  
8 that its officers possess the qualities necessary for the safe performance of law enforcement.  
9 Defendant Zaro was involved in and has direct knowledge of Defendant Wiley's history of  
10 violent and aggressive behavior towards citizens, particularly young black men. Defendant  
11 Zaro had a duty to ensure that the Lakewood Police Officers were fit for duty, knowledgeable  
12 about proper police practices and procedures, and mentally fit to perform those duties.  
13 Defendant Zaro was aware that Defendant Wiley had mental health issues, was not fit to be  
14 serving as an officer, and had been found by a federal jury to have wrongfully killed a young  
15 African American man. Defendant Zaro did nothing to cause Defendant Wiley to be retrained,  
16 to ensure that Defendant Wiley was mentally fit to serve as an officer, to ensure that Defendant  
17 Wiley was properly trained in the use of deadly force, to supervise Defendant Wiley's behavior  
18 or training as a police officer, to monitor Defendant Wiley's behavior, to ensure that Defendant  
19 Wiley wore a body camera, had a dash camera on his vehicle despite the availability of these  
20 devices, or to take action in light of the prior jury verdict to ensure that Wiley did not wrongfully  
21 kill another human being. Defendant Zaro failed in each of these respects. Zaro was an official  
22 with the Lakewood Police Department who had final police making authority. It is clear that  
23 Lakewood officials with final policy making authority acted with deliberate indifference towards

1 the constitutional rights of Lakewood citizens and Plaintiffs, including Plaintiff Said Joquin.  
2 Defendant Zaro's conduct was unreasonable and done with deliberate indifference and callous  
3 disregard for human life. Said Joquin's death was an unnecessary and direct result of Defendant  
4 Zaro's failures.

5       4. The CITY OF LAKEWOOD is a municipal subdivision of the State of  
6 Washington. Lakewood had a duty to ensure that its police officers were properly trained and  
7 mentally fit for duty. After its police officers were previously found by a federal jury to have  
8 wrongfully killed a young, unarmed African American man while holding his four year old  
9 son in his arms, Lakewood had a duty to make sure that its Police Chief and officers were  
10 properly trained, were knowledgeable about proper police procedures and use of deadly force  
11 and were receiving training to ensure that similar wrongful conduct did not occur in the  
12 future. Its police department and officials did nothing about the fact that its police officers  
13 had violated the constitutional rights of Leonard Thomas and wrongfully killed him. The City  
14 of Lakewood did nothing to ensure that its officers were properly trained, did nothing to  
15 address the fact that a federal jury and the Honorable Barbara Rothstein had entered an order  
16 confirming, that the City of Lakewood's police officers, including its police chief, Defendant  
17 Zaro, and Defendant Wiley, had wrongfully killed a young African American man, and did  
18 nothing to ensure that its police force was properly trained in proper police practices of the use  
19 of deadly force. It did nothing to ensure that officers were wearing available body cameras  
20 and dash cameras notwithstanding that they were aware that these officers had been found to  
21 have wrongfully killed an unarmed black man. It did nothing to ensure that Defendant Wiley  
22 was psychologically and mentally fit to fulfill his duties after the jury findings,  
23 notwithstanding, evidence indicating that Wiley was not mentally stable and despite

1 information that Defendant Wiley was having psychological problems and under  
 2 psychological treatment for these problems. As a direct result of this failure Said Joquin was  
 3 wrongfully killed by Defendant Wiley. Defendant City of Lakewood Police Department  
 4 ignored the findings of the Federal Jury and Judge Rothstein's Orders and did nothing  
 5 whatsoever to respond to the deficiencies proven at trial or the fact that is officers had  
 6 wrongfully killed a young black man. Defendant City of Lakewood Police Department's  
 7 actions were unreasonable, and done with deliberate indifference and callous disregard for  
 8 human life.

9       5. Plaintiff DAWN MARIE KORTER as an individual and as Personal  
 10 Representative of the ESTATE of SAID JOQUIN, her natural son, does hereby bring all claims  
 11 available under the law on behalf of the Estate, herself, and all legal and statutory beneficiaries of  
 12 the Estate. Dawn is the late mother of 26-year-old Said Joquin, a young, black man who was  
 13 killed by Defendant Wiley on the side of the road while seated in his vehicle and posing no threat  
 14 of imminent harm to himself or anyone else.

15       6. Plaintiff DEATURA EVERLYN-JEAN JOQUIN is the sister of Said Joquin.  
 16 She suffered extreme and continuing emotional distress and anguish and other general and  
 17 special damages as a direct result of the wrongful actions of Defendants as set forth herein.

## 18                   **II. JURISDICTION & VENUE**

19       7. Jurisdiction and venue are proper in this Court as the City of Lakewood is located  
 20 in Pierce County and the events giving rise to this action occurred in Pierce County.

## 21                   **III. STATUTORY COMPLIANCE**

22       8. On or about June 16, 2020, an administrative claim for damages was served  
 23 upon the City of Lakewood. The City of Lakewood ignored the administrative claim and

1 made no attempts to resolve the issue short of litigation.

2       9. Any prerequisites to the maintenance of this action imposed by RCW 4.96  
3 have accordingly been satisfied.

#### 4                  **IV. STATEMENT OF FACTS**

5       10. This case arises from the wrongful killing of Said Joquin in what should have  
6 been a routine traffic stop for a minor moving violation.

7       11. On May 1, 2020, at approximately 4:00 p.m. in the afternoon, Defendant  
8 Officer Mike Wiley pulled over a 1997 Ford Thunderbird Sedan, operated by Said Joquin, for  
9 failure to stop at a stop sign. As the cars pulled to the side of the road in a strip mall parking  
10 lot off of Steilacoom Blvd., Wiley pulled up behind Said's Thunderbird with his police  
11 cruiser. Wiley and Officer Zachary Schueller exited their police cruisers and approached  
12 Said's vehicle.

13       12. Officers parked in such a manner that the shooting was not captured on the  
14 dashcam video of Officer Schueller. Defendant Wiley's vehicle was not equipped with video  
15 or audio.

16       13. After officers learned that there was a firearm in the vehicle under the driver's  
17 seat, still in its case, they immediately escalated the situation, drawing their weapons and  
18 pointing them at Said and his passenger, Angel Vargas.

19       14. Said had his hands up as he was directed to do so and responded to Defendant  
20 Wiley, which was captured on audio recording that he did not want to get shot. Wiley  
21 continued to escalate the situation, regardless of the fact that Said posed no threat of harm.  
22 Wiley improperly set up a situation in which he ordered Said to put Said's hands on Said's  
23 head and told Said he was going to get shot. "Keep your hands on your head. You're going

1 to get shot dude."

2       15. Defendant Wiley held his gun, trained on Said for a prolonged period of  
 3 several minutes as Said complied with officer commands. After several minutes of an  
 4 unnecessarily escalated and heightened circumstance with guns aimed at Said and Angel,  
 5 Defendant Wiley ultimately fired four rounds at close range into Said's body, upper chest and  
 6 arm, killing him.

7       16. Defendant Wiley killed Said because Said moved his hands. Wiley later tried  
 8 to claim that Said "lunged" for the gun, but this never happened. The gun was in a closed  
 9 holster under the seat and not available for use. Defendant Wiley improperly handled the  
 10 situation and killed Said for moving his hands. As a result of the wrongful and negligent  
 11 shooting, Said was declared dead at the hospital.

12       17. This complaint is filed against the City of Lakewood for its unreasonable  
 13 failure to maintain a properly trained police force, its negligent retention of officers who had  
 14 been found to have previously wrongfully killed a citizen, its failure to properly train its  
 15 officers regarding the proper use of deadly force and how to handle a situation without  
 16 unnecessarily escalating it and its deliberate indifference to the constitutional rights of  
 17 citizens, including Plaintiffs. Defendant Wiley was left on the LPD police force in 2017 even  
 18 after having committed multiple civil rights violations, having punitive damages assessed  
 19 against him, and having wrongfully killed an unarmed citizen. Defendant LPD Chief Zaro  
 20 remained the Police Chief for the City of Lakewood in 2017 despite having committed  
 21 multiple civil rights violations, and having wrongfully killed a young, unarmed African  
 22 American man. The City of Lakewood was directly put on notice that it had a problem of  
 23 officers violating citizens' civil rights, being unfamiliar with proper use of deadly force, and

1 committing multiple constitutional violations and with serious psychological and mental  
2 health issues. Despite the fact that its officers had wrongfully killed a young, unarmed  
3 African American man, the City of Lakewood's Police Department did nothing to address this  
4 problem, or to prevent the same thing from happening again. The City of Lakewood Police  
5 Department actions were negligent and unreasonable and directly led to the wrongful and  
6 unnecessary killing of another young black man.

7 18. Defendant City of Lakewood knew that Defendant Wiley was a dangerous,  
8 mentally unstable, overly aggressive and unpredictable officer with a callous disregard for  
9 human life who was not mentally fit for service. Defendant City of Lakewood knew and  
10 should have known that Defendant Wiley is a mentally unstable man who was unfamiliar with  
11 and refused to follow, standard police protocols, who had previously been found to have  
12 wrongfully killed a young, unarmed black man, who had previously been seen to have  
13 pumped three gratuitous and unnecessary bullets into a family dog which had already been  
14 shot and was dying, who gleefully made statements such as "Jackpot," when the young black  
15 man was killed, referred to the shot that killed the young, black man as a "frickin million  
16 dollar shot," and suggested that they deserved massages as the young, unarmed black man lay  
17 dying. Despite this knowledge, and with reckless disregard and deliberate indifference to the  
18 rights and safety of the citizenry, Defendant allowed Wiley to continue patrol duties and  
19 interact with the public. Nothing was done by the Lakewood Police Department, to ensure  
20 that Wiley's mental instability did not result in further unnecessary and wrongful deaths of  
21 Lakewood citizens. Nothing was done to ensure that he was properly trained, that behavior  
22 changed as a result of the federal jury finding that he had wrongfully killed an unarmed black  
23 man, nothing was done to ensure that he wore a body camera, that his vehicle had a dash

1 camera, that he was properly monitored or supervised. As a direct result of these failures, he  
2 was retained on the police force without further training and shot and killed Said Joquin on  
3 May 1, 2020.

4 19. Documents and sworn testimony uncovered to date have confirmed that  
5 subsequent to the Thomas verdict, Defendant City of Lakewood Police Department and  
6 Defendant Chief Zaro did not provide any additional training, supervision, or discipline Wiley  
7 in any manner. Testimony in fact revealed that nothing whatsoever was done:

8 Deposition of Michael C. Wiley, (Page 48:10 to 48:18)

9 *Q. Did somebody sit down and talk to you about what you had done wrong in  
10 that case?*

11 *A. No.*

12 *Q. Was anybody assigned to supervise you because of the findings in that  
13 case?*

14 *A. No.*

15 *Q. Was anybody assigned to monitor you because of the findings in that case?*

16 *A. No.*

17 Wiley Deposition at Page 49:2 to 49:7

18 *Q. [subsequent to the Thomas verdict] Did anybody sit down and talk to you to  
19 make sure that you weren't going to wrongfully kill another human being?*

20 *A. No.*

22 20. The City of Lakewood and the City of Lakewood Police Department's actions  
23 and the actions of Defendant Zaro and Defendant Wiley were negligent, unreasonable,

deliberately indifferent, and directly led to the wrongful and unnecessary killing of another young black man.

21. LPD and the City of Lakewood, failed to take action to address the failure of its officers to follow standard police practices and protocols, or to protect its citizens from Defendant Wiley's continued violence, lack of knowledge of standards regarding the use of deadly force, and unnecessary aggressiveness toward citizens. Instead, Defendant Wiley has been permitted to operate unsupervised, using his badge to justify needless, aggressive, unreasonable and unnecessary violence on citizens and visitors of the City of Lakewood. The actions by Lakewood were unreasonable, and done with deliberate indifference and callous disregard for the safety and lives of its citizens, and done pursuant to policies, customs and practices which reflected deliberate indifference and callous disregard to the safety and lives of its citizens.

## V. NEGLIGENCE AND ASSAULT & BATTERY

22. Defendants owe a duty of care when engaging in law enforcement functions.

23. Defendants owe a duty to refrain from negligently, unreasonably, recklessly, and wantonly engaging in the non-consensual invasion of the sanctity of a person's bodily and personal security.

24. Defendants owe a duty to refrain from negligently engaging in harmful or offensive contact with a person, resulting from an act intended to cause the plaintiff to suffer such harm or apprehension that such contact is imminent

25. Defendant City of Lakewood owes a duty to ensure that the officers in its agency are fit for service and properly supervised and trained; including regarding police standards and protocols pertaining to control of a scene, dealing with citizens so as not to unnecessarily escalate

1 encounters and to be familiar with and follow proper and reasonable standards regarding the use  
2 of deadly force.

3       26. Defendants owe a duty to ensure that the officers in its agency are mentally and  
4 otherwise fit for service and properly trained in police standards and protocols regarding control  
5 of a scene, dealing with citizens so as not to unnecessarily escalate encounters and to be familiar  
6 with and follow proper and reasonable standards regarding the use of deadly force.

7       27. Defendants owe a duty to ensure that its employees and officers have a sufficient  
8 understanding in the proper use of force, especially deadly force.

9       28. Defendants owed a duty to train and discipline officers who violate the law and  
10 use of force policies and to ensure that such officers are supervised and monitored so that future  
11 conduct does not reoccur. In this case the retention of Defendants Wiley and Zaro in light of  
12 past actions, particularly without additional training, monitoring or oversight, was unreasonable  
13 and done with deliberate indifference and callous disregard for the safety and lives of citizens.  
14 Defendants owed a duty to oversee its police department and to take action when its police  
15 chief and police officers had been found to have wrongfully killed an unarmed, black man.  
16 This duty included a duty to exercise reasonable care to ensure that its police force was  
17 competent, aware of applicable police standards and protocols, using up to date equipment  
18 including body and dash cameras, and aware of the proper use of deadly force. Defendants  
19 owed a duty to ensure that its police department was not composed of dangerous individuals  
20 who were not mentally fit, who were overly aggressive, and to ensure that its police force was  
21 properly trained and who did not pose a danger to people within the City of Lakewood.  
22 Defendants owed a duty to ensure that up to date practices and policies were followed  
23 including the use of devices such as body cameras and dash cameras. Defendant breached

1 these duties and was deliberately indifferent to the constitutional rights of citizens. Such  
 2 breach directly and proximately resulted in the death of Said Joquin.

3       29.     28. Defendant City of Lakewood breached these duties when it failed to follow  
 4 the law, policies, procedures, and failed to protect the public by choosing to not discipline Wiley  
 5 following the finding by a federal jury that Officer Wiley violated the law, leading to the  
 6 unjustified killing of Leonard Thomas.   Defendant City of Lakewood Police Department  
 7 breached these duties when it allowed Defendant Michael Zaro to continue as Chief of the  
 8 Lakewood Police Department following the finding by a federal jury that Defendant Zaro  
 9 violated the law, leading to the unjustified killing of Leonard Thomas. Defendant failed to  
 10 discipline, train, or supervise Defendant Zaro in any manner leading to Defendant Zaro being  
 11 allowed to further endanger the public by recklessly allowing Defendant Wiley out on the streets  
 12 with a badge and uniform. Defendant City of Lakewood breached these duties when it allowed  
 13 Defendant Wiley to continue serving as an officer despite the fact that he was mentally unstable  
 14 and unfit for service. Defendants breached these duties when officers engaged in the improper,  
 15 unreasonable, unnecessary and excessive use of force, including but not limited to shooting and  
 16 killing Said Joquin as he sat in the driver's seat of his vehicle, following Wiley's commands.

17       30.    Defendants breached these duties when Wiley was kept on the streets when he  
 18 had clearly evidenced that he was not fit to carry a weapon or come into contact with citizens.

19       31.    Defendants breached that duty, acted unreasonably and were negligent, when  
 20 Defendants failed to have and follow proper training, policies, and procedures on the standard  
 21 practices of officers in performing routine traffic stops without use of excessive force.

22       32.    Defendants breached that duty, acted unreasonably and were negligent, when  
 23 they used unnecessary and improper physical force and violence against Said Joquin when Wiley

1 shot and killed him during what should have been a routine police contact with a citizen.

2       33. Defendant City of Lakewood, Defendant Zaro and Defendant Wiley breached  
3 duties as described above, and in other ways which may become known through the course of  
4 discovery.

5       34. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches, failures, and negligence of  
6 Defendants, as described above, and in other respects, Plaintiff was unnecessarily shot multiple  
7 times in the chest, torso and arm. Said Joquin suffered from pre-death pain and terror, and died  
8 as a result of Wiley's shooting him. The Estate of Said Joquin hereby brings a claim for  
9 wrongful death, and other general and special damages as a direct result of Defendants' failures  
10 and the officers' actions and omissions.

11       35. As a direct and proximate result of the breaches, failures, and actions of  
12 Defendants, as described above and in other respects as well, Plaintiffs, Said's mother Dawn  
13 Marie Korter, sister Deatura Joquin and family, have incurred and will continue to incur general  
14 and special damages in amounts to be proven at trial.

15       36. The negligent and unreasonable actions of Defendant occurred while the officers  
16 were in the course of their police work and amounted to misfeasance that created a risk of harm,  
17 and actual harm, which ultimately resulted in Said Joquin's death. The officers' actions were  
18 unreasonable, excessive, and well outside standards that reasonable police officers follow when  
19 interacting with citizens. The officers' actions exposed Plaintiff to unnecessary physical and  
20 emotional harm. The officers were required to act reasonably and follow the course of conduct  
21 of a reasonable officer. Defendant Wiley failed to act reasonably in failing to properly control  
22 the scene, in unnecessarily escalating the encounter, in choosing to deploy lethal force against  
23 Said, and in unreasonably and unnecessarily shooting him multiple times, causing his needless,

1 and untimely death. Defendants were negligent in these and other respects.

2       37. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unreasonable conduct, Said  
 3 Joquin was killed and his estate sustained general and special damages which will be proven  
 4 with specificity at the time of trial. Plaintiffs, Dawn Korter and family members, sustained  
 5 severe physical and emotional pain and suffering and mental anguish, loss of her relationship  
 6 with her son, and other general and special damages which will be proven with specificity at the  
 7 time of trial. Deatura Everlyn-Jean Joquin suffered general and special damages, including  
 8 severe and ongoing physical and emotional pain and suffering and emotional anguish. The  
 9 Estate of Said Joquin and its Beneficiaries, have suffered significant, ongoing general and special  
 10 damages which have continued to the present and will continue for an indefinite time into the  
 11 future and are, therefore, permanent, as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence.

#### **12           SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION- VIOLATIONS OF 42 U.S.C. § 1983**

13       38. By virtue of the facts set forth above, the defendants are liable for  
 14 compensatory and punitive damages for subjecting, or causing to be subjected, Said Joquin, a  
 15 citizen of the United States, to a deprivation of the rights guaranteed by the Fourth  
 16 Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and 42 U.S.C. § 1983, to be free from  
 17 unreasonable seizures of his person and to be free from deprivations of his life. They did this  
 18 by performing the seizure in an unreasonable, dangerous, and violent manner, and by shooting  
 19 Said Joquin without legal cause or justification and by allowing Defendant Michael Wiley, a  
 20 known dangerous officer, to continue patrolling the streets without supervision, training, or  
 21 discipline. Defendant City of Lakewood and Defendant Michael Zaro failed to take  
 22 appropriate action after a federal jury had determined that Defendant Zaro and Defendant  
 23 Wiley had wrongfully killed an unarmed, black man and were unfamiliar with proper use of

1 deadly force or standard police protocols regarding the use of deadly force. Defendant had a  
2 policy and/or custom of deliberate indifference to hiring, training, supervision and/or  
3 discipline which caused the death of Said Joquin and the deprivation of constitutional rights  
4 of Said Joquin and Plaintiffs. The decisions of officials with final policy making authority to  
5 retain, fail to train, monitor and discipline had unconstitutional consequences, which directly  
6 led to the deprivations of Plaintiffs' constitutional rights, the death of Said Joquin and  
7 damages to Said Joquin and all Plaintiffs.

8       39. Defendants are liable for compensatory and punitive damages for deprivation  
9 of the civil rights of Plaintiffs guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and 42  
10 U.S.C. § 1983, to be free from excessive force, deprivation of life, deprivation of the familial  
11 relationship, and other violations of their Constitutionally guaranteed rights.

12       40. These rights are long-standing and were clearly established at all times relevant  
13 hereto.

14       41. Acting under color of law, Defendant Michael Zaro, the City of Lakewood,  
15 and their policy makers acted with deliberate indifference for Plaintiffs' Constitutional rights  
16 by failing to train, supervise, and discipline Defendant Wiley, failure to use standard devices  
17 such as body and dash cameras, failure to ensure that Wiley was familiar with the proper use  
18 of deadly force, failure to take steps in light of his overly aggressive and mental health issues,  
19 continued retention of Defendant Zaro and Wiley after a Federal jury had determined that  
20 they were responsible for the wrongful killing of an unarmed black man, failure to monitor,  
21 observe, supervise or review in any manner the conduct of the police department and  
22 Defendant Wiley and Defendant Zaro after they had been found to have wrongfully killed a  
23 man and after punitive damages had been awarded against them. All actions were done with

1 deliberate indifference and callous disregard for the safety of citizens.

2       42. Acting under color of law, Defendant Zaro, the City of Lakewood, and their  
3 policy makers acted with deliberate indifference for Plaintiffs' Constitutional rights by  
4 failing to promulgate, issue and enforce appropriate policies, procedures, and regulations  
5 concerning the use of deadly force, traffic stops, de-escalation, and routine encounters with  
6 the public, among others.

7       43. The conduct of Defendant Zaro and Defendant City of Lakewood constitutes a  
8 deliberately indifferent failure to provide adequate ongoing training, supervision, and  
9 discipline of Defendant Wiley in the performance of his duties as a law enforcement officer, a  
10 failure for which Defendants are liable to Plaintiffs under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for any and all  
11 damages proximately caused by such failure to train, supervise, and/or discipline.

12       44. By virtue of the facts set forth above, Defendants are liable for compensatory  
13 and punitive damages for deprivation of the civil rights of Plaintiffs guaranteed by the  
14 Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and 42 U.S.C. § 1983, to be  
15 free from the deprivation of their liberty interest in a family relationship without due process  
16 of law.

17  
18       45. The civil rights violations delineated herein were proximately caused by  
19 Defendants' customs, policies, practices, ratification of misconduct, and usages.

20       46. Through Defendants' actions as described above, they acted with reckless and  
21 deliberate indifference to the Constitutional rights of Said Joquin, his family, and the greater  
22 citizenry.

23       47. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' above-described wrongful

actions, Said Joquin and Plaintiffs Dawn Korter and Deatura Joquin suffered significant pain, fear, trauma, great emotional distress, disfigurement, disability, loss of life, loss of the ability to enjoy life, pre-death terror, and lost earning capacity and death. The estate of Said Joquin suffered other special and general damages to be proven at trial.

48. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' above-described wrongful actions, among others, including those set forth above and learned during discovery, Said's family and heirs suffered substantial general and special damages in amounts to be proven at trial.

## **VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for judgment against Defendants and each of them jointly and severally:

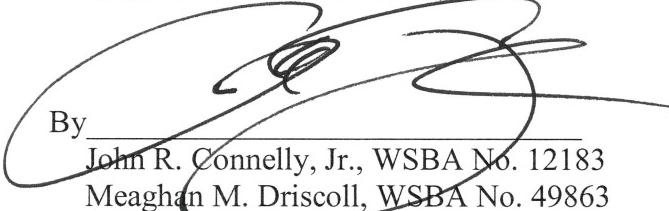
- (a) For an award of general and special damages, including damages for pain, suffering, predeath terror, economic loss and wrongful death in amounts to be proven at trial;
  - (b) For punitive damages on Plaintiffs' claims under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Defendants' conduct was malicious, oppressive, and done with reckless disregard for Plaintiffs' rights. Defendants' conduct was accompanied by ill will and spite, done for the purpose of injuring Plaintiffs and done with complete indifference to Plaintiffs' rights and safety. Defendants acted with knowledge that such conduct resulted in violation of Plaintiffs' constitutional rights under federal law and with knowledge that Lakewood police officers had been found to have done this previously without any retraining, supervision, monitoring or any other actions taken to prevent such conduct in the future.

1 Defendants violated the rights of Plaintiffs and abused their power over  
2 Plaintiffs thereby subjecting Plaintiffs punitive damages pursuant to 42 U.S.C.  
3 § 1983 and otherwise.

- 4 (c) For costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs, under 42 U.S.C. §  
5 1988 and to the extent otherwise permitted by law;  
6 (d) For an award of pre and post judgment interest as permitted by law;  
7 (e) For Plaintiffs' reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as permitted by law, (42,  
8 USC Sec. 1988, and otherwise); and  
9 (f) For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper under the  
10 circumstances.

11  
12 DATED this 25 day of August, 2022.  
13

14 CONNELLY LAW OFFICES, PLLC

15 By   
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